

October 23, 2007

MINUTES OF THE CITY COUNCIL MEETING HELD OCTOBER 23, 2007

A Regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Hopewell, Virginia, was held Tuesday, October 23, 2007, at 6:00 PM in the City Council Chambers, Municipal Building, 300 North Main Street, Hopewell, Virginia.

PRESENT: Steven R. Taylor, Mayor
Brenda S. Pelham, Vice Mayor
Christina J. Luman-Bailey, Councilor
Curtis W. Harris, Councilor
Kenneth B. Emerson, Councilor
E. Randy Sealey, Councilor
N. Gregory Cuffey, Councilor

Edwin C. Daley, City Manager
Edwin N. Wilmot, City Attorney
Ann M. Romano, City Clerk

Mayor Taylor opened the meeting at 6:30 PM. Roll call was taken as follows:

Mayor Taylor	-	present
Vice Mayor Pelham	-	present
Councilor Bailey	-	present
Councilor Harris	-	present
Councilor Emerson	-	present
Councilor Sealey	-	present
Councilor Cuffey	-	present

CLOSED SESSION

At 6:00 PM **motion** was made by Councilor Emerson, and seconded by Councilor Cuffey to convene into Closed Session to discuss Appointments to Boards and Commissions, and Legal Matters & Disposition of Property (HDC/Osage/Exeter), in accordance with Virginia Code Sec. 2.2-3711 (A)(1), (3) & (7).

(Before Mayor Taylor convened the Open Meeting, he announced a Pumpkin Carving at Heritage Gardens on Saturday, October 27, 2007, 2:30-5:00 PM; rain date is Sunday, October 28. The limit is 40 children, who must be accompanied by a parent. Please call Brenda Harrup at 458-1892 for reservations.)

OPEN SESSION

At 7:30 PM Council convened into Open Session. Councilors responded to the question: "Were the only matters discussed in the Closed Meeting public business matters lawfully exempted from open meeting requirements; and public business matters identified in the motion to convene into Closed Session?" Upon the roll call, the vote resulted:

Mayor Taylor	-	yes
Vice Mayor Pelham	-	yes
Councilor Cuffey	-	yes
Councilor Bailey	-	yes
Councilor Harris	-	yes
Councilor Emerson	-	yes
Councilor Sealey	-	yes

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REGULAR MEETING

Mayor Taylor opened the regular meeting at 7:30 PM. Roll call was taken as follows:

Mayor Taylor	-	present
Vice Mayor Pelham	-	present
Councilor Bailey		present
Councilor Harris	-	present
Councilor Emerson	-	present
Councilor Sealey	-	present
Councilor Cuffey	-	present

CONSENT AGENDA

Motion was made by Councilor Harris, and seconded by Councilor Sealey, to approve the Consent Agenda: Minutes September 25, 2007 and Work Session October 2, 2007; Pending List; Information for Council Review: [Hopewell Twinning Assn. 9/17/07; ARLS minutes 8/21/07; ARLS min 8/21/07 & Agenda 9/18/07; TSB min 8/14/07 & Agenda 10/2/07; Dist 19 CSB min 5/24/07; Waterfront Dev Comm. min 9/17/07; Recreation Comm. min 9/12/07 & Agenda 10/10/07; School Board min 9/13/07, 9/19/07 & 10/11/07; HRHA Agenda 10/15/07]; Personnel Change Report; Financial Report; Public Hearings Announcements: *Set 3 Public Hearings for November 27, 2007*: (1) To consider a request to vacate a portion of the right-of-way known as Carolina Avenue located near the intersection of Boston Street and Carolina Avenue; (2) To consider a request to vacation a portion of the right-of-way known as Western Street located at the rear of properties located at the intersection of Emory Street and Old Woodlawn Avenue; and, (3) To consider a request for a Conditional Use Permit to locate a cell tower at 3218 Oaklawn Boulevard in accordance with Article XI-A of the Hopewell Zoning Ordinance. Routine Approval of Work Sessions: Confirm date for Joint Work Session with the School Board, and confirm date for Council Advance; Ordinances on second and final reading: None; Proclamations/Resolutions/ Presentations: None. Upon the roll call, the vote resulted:

Mayor Taylor	-	yes
Vice Mayor Pelham	-	yes
Councilor Cuffey	-	yes
Councilor Bailey	-	yes
Councilor Harris	-	yes
Councilor Emerson	-	yes
Councilor Sealey	-	yes

WAIVE COUNCIL RULES AND PROCEDURES TO CONSIDER CANCELLATION OF THE COUNCIL MEETING OF NOVEMBER 13, 2007

Motion was made by Councilor Emerson, and seconded by Councilor Sealey to resolve to Waive Council Rules and Procedures to consider cancellation of the Council meeting of November 13, 2007. Upon the roll call, the vote resulted:

Mayor Taylor	-	yes
Vice Mayor Pelham	-	yes
Councilor Cuffey	-	yes
Councilor Bailey	-	yes
Councilor Harris	-	yes
Councilor Emerson	-	yes
Councilor Sealey	-	yes

CANCEL THE COUNCIL MEETING OF NOVEMBER 13, 2007

The National League of Cities (NLC) Annual Conference is in New Orleans on November 13-17, 2007. Vice Mayor Pelham, Councilor Bailey and Councilor Cuffey will attend that conference. Therefore it is necessary to cancel the regular City Council meeting on November 13, 2007.

Motion was made by Vice Mayor Pelham, and seconded by Councilor Harris to cancel the regular City Council meeting on November 13, 2007. Upon the roll call, the vote resulted:

Mayor Taylor	-	yes
Vice Mayor Pelham	-	yes
Councilor Cuffey	-	yes
Councilor Bailey	-	yes
Councilor Harris	-	yes
Councilor Emerson	-	yes
Councilor Sealey	-	yes

Under the Consent Agenda three public hearings were approved for November 13, 2007. Due to the cancellation of that meeting, all three will be held on November 27, 2007, the only meeting in November.

REGULAR BUSINESS - PARKVIEW POINTE SUBDIVISION PLAT

Mayor Taylor announced that due to the large number of citizens in attendance for the Parkview Pointe Subdivision Plat agenda item, it would be moved forward on the agenda to be addressed first.

Mayor Taylor asked the City Attorney about the protocol for disapproval of the subdivision plat. Mr. Wilmot indicated that should Council wish to disapprove it, there should be an amendment to the wording.

Motion was made by Councilor Cuffey, and seconded by Councilor Sealey, to resolve to disapprove the proposed plat because:

1. There is no obligation by City to accept the proposed road which would result in the required road access;
2. Approval would be inconsistent with the Cobblestone plat which depicted Lot #30 as a residential lot, not a road;
3. The plat depicts proposed lots and roads on top of a VDOT right-of-way; and
4. Approval would violate Restrictive Covenants regarding Lot #30 of the Cobblestone Plat.

Jimmy Jones, applicant, addressed Council. He stated that Council had 60 days and the action before them was to approve or deny the plat. If it was denied, he requested to know why. He was told by Dr. Daley that the City did not acquire any property and the City would deny the request.

Dr. Daley reminded Council that information on the issue is available, but because of legal matters, any discussion must be in Closed Session. Mr. Wilmot acknowledged that if the applicant requested it be tabled, it could be tabled. If not, Council could deny the request. The City Manager reminded Council that they must act within 60 days.

Some members of Council agreed that they would not want that road going through the middle of Cobblestone if they lived there. Mr. Jones would still need a second road for Parkview Pointe, the new subdivision with 95-100 new homes. The majority of Council did not favor the new street.

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Mr. Jones reiterated that Dr. Daley told him it would not be on the 10/23/07 agenda, and then it was on the agenda for denial. This is landmark property.

Councilor Cuffey raised a Point of Order. He wished to back up and make another motion. Mr. Wilmot ruled that it would be appropriate for a Council member to make a motion to table at the behest of Mr. Jones.

Councilor Sealey reinforced the opinion that Council was not against the development, but against the road through Cobblestone. If tabling this could accomplish a second entrance, then he would be in favor of tabling.

A substitute **motion** was made by Vice Mayor Pelham, and seconded by Councilor Sealey, to table the Parkview Pointe Subdivision Plat to work out a second entrance. Upon the roll call, the vote resulted:

Mayor Taylor	-	yes
Vice Mayor Pelham	-	yes
Councilor Cuffey	-	yes
Councilor Bailey	-	yes
Councilor Harris	-	yes
Councilor Emerson	-	yes
Councilor Sealey	-	yes

Mayor Taylor called for a ten-minute recess from 8:00-8:10 PM.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM CITIZENS

The meeting reconvened at 8:10 PM.

Yolanda Stokes, P. O. Box 1463, Prince George, applied for public housing in Hopewell. Her former address was 3411 Trenton Street, Hopewell. She applied for housing, did not receive it, and became homeless. She went through the process and was denied housing. She worked in public housing all her life in Hopewell, Petersburg, and Charlottesville. She filed a grievance which went as far as a full hearing. An active City of Hopewell Police Officer was on the Grievance Board, which she felt was unfair. She met with Mayor Taylor about the issue. She attempted to contact and meet with the Interim Police Chief but was unsuccessful. She also went to an HRHA meeting. They have the right to overturn the decision. Their agenda had no opportunity for a citizen to speak. They talked about her, but she could not speak to the Board. Is there anything that Council can do to assure that others are allowed to speak in the future to the Board of Commissioners? She filed a complaint form in the CDBG office. She also felt there was an occupancy issue from the Bluffs. Family Status protects children but not adults. She asked that since Council appoints HRHA commissioners, appoint a person to at least advise if they make decisions.

Wayne Walton, 534 North Avenue, Hopewell, announced the 16th Annual River Cleanup on Saturday, October 27, 2007 as the conclusion to Clean Up Week. Volunteers should meet at the Marina at 8:30 AM to begin cleanup from 9:00-12:00 at the river at the Bluffs.

David Wheal, 105 South 16th Avenue, Apt. #4, Hopewell, asked for affordable, low-income, Senior Citizen housing in the City. Many individuals only have Social Security and/or Disability income. The Mallonee School site would be a good location.

Bishop Thomas Blanding, 424 Appomattox Street, Hopewell, goal: to make prayer visible in schools again. There was a time that we would not have to worry about violence in schools. He has

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observed how Council opened this meeting with prayer. The Lord's Prayer starts with, "Our Father." The "Community Gang" is asking Council to take crime off the street. There were three members of the Community Gang in the audience as well as Vice Mayor Pelham, all supporting the program.

Richard Saunders, 1005 Bank Street, Hopewell, agreed with Councilor Emerson regarding the Ethanol plant - not at the Exeter Site. The Exeter Site should be used to expand the downtown for other businesses. The Ethanol plant at the Exeter side would conflict with Councilor Bailey's Main Street Program.

Nikki Wyatt, Tamisha Jones, & a third owner of Highlights, 4100 Oaklawn Boulevard, Hopewell, had been invited by Vice Mayor Pelham to address Council. Ms. Wyatt was the spokesperson for the group and asked what more would the City want them to do to operate a safe business. In May 2006 there were 70 rounds of gunfire at their business. As a result they increased the age limit, restricted the dress code, and implemented an earlier "last call." In August 2006 they came to a City Council meeting after working with law enforcement. Ms. Wyatt visited with Councilor Sealey at his business and asked for ideas to help with her business. She invited all Council members to her business at Highlights. They have many positive events that no one hears about, such as a recent Women's Forum, an upcoming Car Show in November, and hosting a World BTR Poker Tournament. Proceeds are donated to local charities. She has remained in touch with Chief Baxley and Captain Costanzo. She has hired off-duty police officers for the parking lot, and have asked for communication with them. They still do not know who the offenders are. She again asked what more Council wanted them to do to insure than they can be successful.

Mayor Taylor asked the City Manager to schedule a meeting with the three of them, the Commonwealth's Attorney, Police, the ABC Board, Councilor Cuffey, and any other interested Council members.

Ms. Wyatt also commented that three officers who were very helpful were Officers Dean, Davis, and Irons. But they have not been back. She has since dealt with Captain Costanzo, and it was not a pleasant experience. He contacted eight ABC Agents saying that Highlights was a public nuisance. They just want to be safe. They are asking for communication and support.

There being no other speakers, the Communications from Citizens was closed at 8:45 PM.

PRESENTATION - SOCIAL SERVICES ADVISORY BOARD - NANCY TREANOR, DIRECTOR - HOPEWELL DSS

Nancy Treanor, Director, Hopewell Department of Social Services introduced members of the Social Services Advisory Board: Margie Hayes, Chair (6 years); Shirley Kennedy (9 years); Michael Natoli (5 years); Annie Pettaway-Duncan (3 years); Marian Jones-Smith (2 years); and Kathleen Vincent (4 years).

Mr. Natoli reported that all services are mandated by the federal government. They provided the Annual Report dated June 7, 2007 to each Councilor. He reviewed the:

Financial Assistance Programs:

Heating Assistance	1352 applications	up 700+ since 2003
Food Stamps	20% of Hopewell Households	up 515+ since 2003
Medicaid	40% of Hopewell Households	up 1323 in last 5 years
TANF	3% of Hopewell Households	649 Individuals; up 29

Service Programs:

Day Care	296 up to 592 Children	\$100,000+
	636 cases	up 382+
Employment	63% to 75%	
Foster Care	Down 56 to 52	

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Home Based Services	23	
Nursing Home Screenings	17	
Personal Care Screenings	28	up 14+
Protective Services	Adult/Elderly/Disabled	46 investigations
	Children	320 reports

Advisory Board Duties:

- Receive information to education the public;
- Act as liaisons between the public and staff;
- Participate in Hooray for Hopewell - distribute information;
- Spring Family Gala - HHS;
- Advise Director;
- Pursue options for Human Services Building.

Nancy Treanor has been involved with the Hopewell Department of Social Services for 35 years. City Council and the Advisory Board should do everything possible to assist her. Fort Lee will have a large impact on Social Services with BRAC. Advisory Board concerns include: 1) Staff - there have been 108 position changes in the last five years, a 41% turnover rate; 2) Office Space - There is a combined 12,000 sq. ft. of office space between the main office and the Colonial Square office; they need 18,000 sq. ft. Confidentiality is compromised. Council was asked again to look at a Human Services Building.

Ms. Treanor distributed tote bags to each Council member with a copy of the Annual Report and additional information.

In response to what the most successful program is in getting most people off the Social Services rolls, she responded TANF. They are required to apply for jobs, get job training, job mentoring. They are finding jobs, but also changing jobs. In addition many jobs are not paying well. Social Services teaches budgeting, helps with daycare, etc. Social Services also provides gas cards, pays for cabs, and participates in the "Vehicles for Change" program by purchasing inexpensive cars (\$1,000 towards the car cost at \$1,200-1,500 avg.). Ms. Treanor and her staff were thanked for all they do for the community.

CITIZEN/COUNCILOR REQUEST - COUNCILOR EMERSON - DEMOLITION OF THE BLUFFS

Councilor Emerson reported that Council decided not to do any more demolition at the Bluffs until all tenants have vacated the property. They will all be out by the end of the month. He complimented administration on handling that process.

Motion was made by Councilor Emerson, and seconded by Councilor Sealey, to resolve to authorize administration to solicit bids and other necessary paperwork to demolish the Bluffs in a timely manner.

Councilor Harris was opposed to the demolition of the Bluffs. He did all he could to make sure that no one got hurt. He asked HUD to become involved in the process and asked for an investigation, which they did. HUD did not try to prevent demolition of the building. The tenants were able to move rapidly. Council provided \$500 for each apartment at the Bluffs for relocation. Everyone is now gone. It is now time for demolition.

Vice Mayor Pelham felt that it was a safety issue. Many families were displaced, but administration helped the families. Some moved as far away as Virginia Beach. The local housing authority did not qualify many of the families. The Bluffs must be demolished for safety reasons.

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Councilor Sealey felt that Council did not want to demolish the Bluffs while tenants still lived there. Chief Baxley spoke to Council about some of the problems at that location. About five days later, there was a shooting. The Bluffs became as much, if not more, of a safety issue when it became empty. Now is the time for demolition.

Councilor Cuffey reiterated that the Bluffs was purchased for \$3.15M. The City Manager indicated a net gain of \$55-60,000, deducted from the \$3.15M. Councilor Cuffey asked how many people received \$500. Mr. Altman said that all but a handful received it and those were being tracked so it could be mailed to them. The estimated cost of demolition is \$600,000, which will come from the Economic Development Fund.

Dr. Daley provided a Demolition Estimate for The Bluffs Apartment complex dated October 22, 2007.

<i>Service</i>	<i>Cost(\$)</i>
Environmental Survey - Includes asbestos, lead paint, PCB, and mercury bulb testing.	\$ 3,500
Asbestos Abatement - Assumes asbestos floor tile and mastic & pipe insulation in buildings.	\$122,700
Demolition - Includes all necessary machinery, tools, labor, supervision, insurance.	\$335,000
Additional Demolition Items - Removal & disposal of asphalt, sidewalk, curb & gutter, or concrete pads.	\$109,250
Performance and Payment Bond* -	\$14,262
Total	\$584,712

*-Performance and payment bond is 2-½% of the total project cost.

The demolition estimate includes the demolition and removal of ten (10) apartment buildings and office/laundry facility, building slabs and foundations, silt fencing, up to three (3) mobilizations, and disposal of the debris at a landfill.

The estimated pricing does not include bonding requirements, Freon removal, cutting, capping, relocation of utilities, landscape removal or disposal, backfill or compaction, or an erosion control plan.

A performance and payment bond can be added for an additional 2-½% of the final total cost. It would be advisable to add bonding.

Upon the roll call, the vote resulted:

Mayor Taylor	-	yes
Vice Mayor Pelham	-	NO
Councilor Cuffey	-	yes
Councilor Bailey	-	NO
Councilor Harris	-	yes
Councilor Emerson	-	yes
Councilor Sealey	-	yes

CITIZEN/COUNCILOR REQUEST - COUNCILOR BAILEY -DISCUSS HOPEWELL DOWNTOWN PARTNERSHIP'S MISSION STATEMENT AND ITS IMPLEMENTATION BY THE PARTNERSHIP'S FOUR COMMITTEES

Councilor Bailey read from the Application to the Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD) for the Downtown Partnership.

The Downtown Partnership, Inc. has four different committees:

1. **DESIGN COMMITTEE:** Katherine Podlewski, Downtown Resident and Artist; Tevya Griffin, City Planner; Cassandra Spencer, Downtown Merchant; Sarah Johnson, Citizen; and Stefan Calos, Attorney and Amateur Architectural Historian.

Design: Enhance the look of downtown by giving it a more harmonious, cohesive, and pedestrian-friendly image

- make area around the new library pedestrian-friendly/encourage pedestrian flow from library to West Broadway businesses;
- improve the look of downtown by focusing on historic themes;
- encourage façade appearance and signage.

First Project: Help decide Street print for Library Street and begin façade “awareness” by showing pictures of similar structures to Downtown Hopewell’s with improvements already in place (example: Cary Street).

2. **PROMOTIONS COMMITTEE:** Bernie Boone, CEO, John Randolph Medical Center; Tina Hazelwood, Journalist and Photographer; Becky Redling, Teacher; Patrice Gilliam, Events and Marketing Specialist; Mary Forbes, Hooray For Hopewell; Nicki Childs, Hooray For Hopewell; and Cliff Morris, Cardiologist and Inspirational Speaker.

Promotions: Promote positive foot traffic in the downtown area and encourage a healthy, connected community

- coordinate with the library to bring people downtown;
- promote music and art festivals;
- encourage eco-tourism and healthy, family activities.

First Project: Coordinate events with the library to bring fun and people downtown - start with outdoor movies for Downtown.

3. **ECONOMIC RESTRUCTURING COMMITTEE:** Willie Hayes, Downtown Merchant; Ray Edmonds, Housing Authority; Johnny Jones, Banker and Member, Chamber of Commerce; George Elder, Property Owner; Brenda Pelham, Council Member; Kathleen Vincent, Downtown Resident.

Economic Restructuring: Use incentives and establish synergy with promotional activities to attract and retain businesses downtown

- coordinate with the Housing Authority to implement low interest loan program for downtown structures
- improve customer service for existing and potential businesses by promoting awareness and accessibility to tax incentive programs (enterprise zone and historic tax credits)
- work with Design Committee to create façade improvement program

First Project: Put together package for existing and potential businesses to explain all potential financial incentives available to them.

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4. **ORGANIZATION COMMITTEE:** Ed Daley, City Manager; Christina Luman-Bailey, Council Member; Mary Shifflett, Downtown Merchant; Greg Anderson, Sheriff.

Organization: Establish organizational structure of The Hopewell Downtown Partnership and coordinate efforts of the organization with the local government and local organizations

- continue to promote Main Street program in the community with presentations and continue contacting established Main Street communities to learn from them
- finalize the Hopewell Downtown Partnership board
- hire a program manager (Downtown Coordinator)
- become a 501c3
- develop by-laws
- set up a Main Street office

First Project: Establish By-laws, Incorporation, set up bank account, and hire program manager.

Mary Shifflett addressed Council on behalf of the Downtown Partnership, Inc. The merchants need funds. Many areas must be cleaned up. The merchants are tired of going to Council meetings because Council promises, but does not do anything. The 2007 Celebration did not help downtown at all. The coordinator was concerned with the best interests of the administration or Council, not the downtown merchants. Do not let the administration alone use the money. She made a suggestion for the Bluffs. There are problems downtown with Section 8 housing. Fix the Bluffs and move the Section 8 people from downtown to the Bluffs. Police need more tools to help them. There are not enough police officers on the streets. Downtown needs more lights, more parking, and more security. Address vagrancy and violence, which are large problems.

Councilor Bailey urged Council to listen to the merchants. She read from an e-mail dated May 2, 2007 regarding a Revised FY 07-08 Summary - Council Actions 04-30-07.

"The attached document summarizes actions taken by City Council on April 30 regarding the budget and additional information that was requested:

...Economic Development Fund is budgeted to fund the City contribution for the Main Street Program..."

By: E. Hager

4/30/2007

Budget Items

City Manager Proposed Budget

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT FUND

Adds

Main Street Program

Use of Surplus

Revenues

\$354,748

Expenditures

\$354,748

Over/Short

50,000

50,000

\$404,748

\$404,748

\$0

She also read a resolution adopted at the City Council meeting on April 10, 2007:

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, the Virginia Main Street Program has been established in the Virginia Department of Housing and Community Development to assist localities in developing public/private efforts to revitalize their downtown commercial areas, and whereas, up to three Virginia cities, towns, and counties will be selected to participate in the on-going program, and receive intensive technical assistance for DHCD.

WHEREAS, the City of Hopewell desires to participate in the Virginia Main Street Program.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF HOPEWELL

SECTION 1. That the City of Hopewell applies for selection to participate in the 2007 Virginia Main Street Program with the specific goal of economically revitalizing the designated Main Street district within the context of historic preservation using the Main Street Approach TM; and

SECTION 2. That the City of Hopewell meets the population criteria and that the proposed Main Street district contains at least 50 commercial enterprises and 70 structures; and

SECTION 3. That the City of Hopewell has an organization that is dedicated to the revitalization and on-going management of the designated Main Street district; and

SECTION 4. That the City of Hopewell guarantees that it will be a financial partner with the Main Street organization for at least five years to ensure:

- A. a sustainable Main Street program operating budget will be funded;
- B. a Main Street manager will be employed;
- C. an adequate level of clerical support will be provided to the Main Street manager; and

SECTION 5. It is recognized that downtown revitalization requires an on-going commitment, continuous attention, and a full public private partnership. The Main Street program is considered one of many economic and community development tools used by a locality.

SECTION 6. That the City Manager is designated to assist in the submission of the application.

Adopted April 10, 2007.

/s/ Steven R. Taylor, Mayor, City Council

Councilor Bailey indicated that Council has committed, with the application and the resolution, passed by Council, to support this program for the next five years with \$50,000. She asked the City Manager that the Downtown Coordinator report to the Organization Committee. There was some discussion on whether or not the committee was dissolved. The \$50,000 was approved for this program. That is why there is no action necessary at this time.

At 9:52 PM Mayor Taylor ruled Councilor Bailey out of order for speaking out of turn.

Councilor Bailey stated that at the last Work Session it was not announced ahead of time that there would be discussion. The committee was not dissolved. It served as the Board of Directors.

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REGULAR BUSINESS - SCHOOL BOARD - RESOLUTION TO APPROVE TRANSFER OF OWNERSHIP OF THE APPOMATTOX GOVERNOR'S SCHOOL TO THE REGIONAL BOARD

The Regional Board of the Appomattox Governor's School requested the transfer of ownership of the Governor's School Building from the Appomattox Governor's School Limited Partnership to the Regional Board of the Appomattox Governor's School.

At the Hopewell School Board meeting held on October 11, 2007 the Hopewell School Board unanimously adopted a Resolution approving the transfer of ownership of the Governor's School Building in Petersburg from the Appomattox Governor's School Limited Partnership to the Regional Board of the Appomattox Governor's School. The School Board has requested that Hopewell City Council adopt a similar resolution supporting the transfer of the title.

Motion was made by Councilor Harris, and seconded by Vice Mayor Pelham, to resolve to adopt a Resolution approving the transfer of ownership of the Governor's School Building in Petersburg from the Appomattox Governor's School Limited Partnership to the Regional Board of the Appomattox Governor's School. Upon the roll call, the vote resulted:

Mayor Taylor	-	yes
Vice Mayor Pelham	-	yes
Councilor Cuffey	-	yes
Councilor Bailey	-	yes
Councilor Harris	-	yes
Councilor Emerson	-	yes
Councilor Sealey	-	yes

REGULAR BUSINESS - JO TUREK, DIRECTOR - DEPARTMENT OF RECREATION & PARKS, FEDERAL LANDS TO PARKS PROGRAM

Two of the City's park properties were obtained through a Federal Lands to Parks Program: Atwater Park with 21.9 acres and Atwater Soccer Complex with 23.99 acres. When the City obtained these two parks through the program, the agreement was clear that the acreage must be maintained. Therefore another recreational site must be designated with that acreage.

When Anchor Point was developed a portion of the park site from Atwater Park was used for the main entrance to the Anchor Point Site. The acreage used from the park was 1.87 acres. As the City works with the Cameron Landing site and the need for the entrance to that area, a portion of the Atwater Soccer Complex is being used for that entrance. The acreage used from that park was 2.86. Therefore, the total acreage used is 4.73. The Federal Lands to Parks Programs must be notified of the exchange which is allowable by the agreement. The City will have to provide a boundary survey, obtain an appraisal, site assessment, provide location map of all park sites, as well as adding a sign to the park site showing the designation as a Federal Lands to Parks Program once all is done and approved. After reviewing City-owned property, it is recommended that Kings Court, which has 7.66 acres in total, be used as the site for the exchange of the 4.73 acres. Kings Court is located near the landfill and that site is best suited for the designation. Council is asked to approve the request to notify the United States Department of the Interior who oversees the Federal Lands to Parks Program of the City's approval to exchange the acreage, and allow city administration to move forward through the necessary steps.

Motion was made by Councilor Emerson, and seconded by Councilor Cuffey, to resolve to authorize procedures necessary to accomplish transfer, including setting a Public Hearing. Upon the roll call, the vote resulted:

Mayor Taylor	-	yes
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Vice Mayor Pelham	-	yes
Councilor Cuffey	-	yes
Councilor Bailey	-	yes
Councilor Harris	-	yes
Councilor Emerson	-	yes
Councilor Sealey	-	yes

REGULAR BUSINESS - JO TUREK, DIRECTOR - DEPARTMENT OF RECREATION & PARKS, PURCHASE OF LAND FROM MRS. KATHRYN HUNTER

Mrs. Kathryn Hunter owns 0.4 acres of land that is near the Hopewell City Marina which abuts the Water Company. VDOT gave the City of Hopewell the approval to park under the bridge. That small portion of land should also be owned by the City of Hopewell thereby allowing for more space and would ensure that it is maintained. Mrs. Hunter has indicated her approval to sell the land to the City of Hopewell for \$1,000. A drawing shows that small triangular shaped piece of land (filed in the City Clerk's office).

The Harbor Fund dollars should be allocated for the purchase and any other expenses that may be needed to complete the transaction. Council approval is sought to purchase the acreage, and allow city administration to move forward through the necessary steps.

Motion was made by Councilor Emerson, and seconded by Councilor Harris, to pass an ordinance on first reading authorizing purchase of property. Upon the roll call, the vote resulted:

Mayor Taylor	-	yes
Vice Mayor Pelham	-	yes
Councilor Cuffey	-	yes
Councilor Bailey	-	yes
Councilor Harris	-	yes
Councilor Emerson	-	yes
Councilor Sealey	-	yes

REGULAR BUSINESS - DR. EDWIN DALEY, CITY MANAGER - VIRGINIA SESQUICENTENNIAL OF THE AMERICAN CIVIL WAR COMMISSION (2011-2015) - FORM A LOCAL SESQUICENTENNIAL COMMITTEE

Form a Hopewell Civil War Sesquicentennial Committee to plan for and commemorate the 150th anniversary of Virginia's participation in the American Civil War, the duration of which will be 2011 through 2015. In addition, a liaison should be designated to work with the Commission, who would communicate regularly on plans in development and events occurring within the locality.

The Virginia Sesquicentennial of the American Civil War Commission was created during the 2006 Session of the General Assembly. Virginia is the first state to create such a commission and formally begin planning for the commemoration. The anniversary holds tremendous educational, economic, and tourism opportunities for the Commonwealth. Virginia has more Civil War sites than any other state, including over 400 public and private non-profit organizations and agencies engaged in commemorating historical events.

Motion was made by Councilor Emerson, and seconded by Councilor Sealey, to call for the question to end debate. Upon the roll call, the vote resulted:

Mayor Taylor	-	yes
Vice Mayor Pelham	-	NO
Councilor Cuffey	-	NO

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Councilor Bailey	-	NO
Councilor Harris	-	yes
Councilor Emerson	-	yes
Councilor Sealey	-	yes

The motion failed 4/3.

Motion was made by Councilor Emerson, and seconded by Councilor Sealey, to call for the question to end debate. Upon the roll call, the vote resulted:

Mayor Taylor	-	yes
Vice Mayor Pelham	-	yes
Councilor Cuffey	-	yes
Councilor Bailey	-	NO
Councilor Harris	-	yes
Councilor Emerson	-	yes
Councilor Sealey	-	yes

Motion was made by Councilor Sealey, and seconded by Councilor Bailey, to resolve to form a Hopewell Civil War Sesquicentennial Committee to plan for and commemorate the 150th anniversary of Virginia's participation in the American Civil War, the duration of which will be 2011 through 2015, and to designate a liaison to work with the Commission, who would communicate regularly on plans in development and events occurring within the locality. Upon the roll call, the vote resulted:

Mayor Taylor	-	yes
Vice Mayor Pelham	-	NO
Councilor Cuffey	-	NO
Councilor Bailey	-	NO
Councilor Harris	-	yes
Councilor Emerson	-	yes
Councilor Sealey	-	yes

REGULAR BUSINESS - CITY EVENTS COORDINATOR POSITION

Council approved an appropriation of \$50,000 for someone to work with the downtown committee if the City received Main Street designation. We did not receive the designation; however we were awarded affiliate status. We will be eligible to reapply in 2010.

Hopewell 2007 has been a great success. The City needs to build upon this and bring more people to the City in 2008. Several different city departments and other agencies work with these events but it is a secondary task for them. Efforts to revitalize downtown need to continue. The City has invested heavily in the Library and the Downtown Plan. The City has extensive real estate holdings/options which should be released into the market. No one works directly with potential business owners to help them gain access to financial and organizational start-up assistance. We do not offer trainees at Fort Lee opportunities to visit downtown, City Point, Weston Manor, and our rivers. A City Events Coordinator could build on these efforts and work with the Public Affairs Coordinator, Recreation & Parks, and other City departments, and an advisory committee appointed by the City, similar to Hopewell 2007.

The position should initially be part of the City Manager's Office, but could be transferred to Recreation & Parks in the future. The position should be funded at Grade 18 (\$35,600-\$56,300). It is recommended that funds from the Economic Development Fund be used for this position.

October 23, 2007

Motion was made by Councilor Emerson, and seconded by Vice Mayor Pelham, to resolve to approve and reappoint the Downtown Partnership as an Ad-hoc Committee of City Council, with new members.

It was understood that the funds were needed to apply for the Main Street designation. This \$50,000 would not go to that purpose if we did not receive that designation. The \$50,000 is part of showing due diligence. It would be a contribution to help their budget. There was no clear cut plan if the designation was not received. We must define what our commitment is. The Main Street program required dedication. There was some discrepancy about whether or not the designation was received. We received the Affiliate Status for three years. The Resolution was based on getting the full Main Street designation; we did not get it. The money allocated cannot be spent for that purpose.

Vice Mayor Pelham withdrew her second to the motion. Councilor Harris then seconded the motion.

Councilor Harris called for the question. However, he withdrew that to allow for additional discussion.

Councilor Bailey read from the minutes of the Budget Work Session dated April 23, 2007 referring to the Downtown Development Manager, which at that time was designated as a City position. She stated that the City had received Affiliate Status. Kyle Myer is coming to the City on November 28 to provide training. We are part of the Main Street program. She invited Council to check with the Department of Housing and Community Development. If we are going to reverse a previous decision without announcing it and redirect those funds, it requires a two-thirds (2/3) majority vote.

Councilor Cuffey stated that there are members of the City's businesses who have spent time on this project. There is an adopted resolution. Council said they would allocate \$50,000. They did agree to guarantee to be financial partners for five years. Simply provide a position for the Downtown Events Coordinator without taking from those funds. Take from the Economic Development Funds or somewhere else.

Mayor Taylor indicated that at the time we applied for the Main Street Program, the Ad Hoc Committee of City Council applied. Now Council wants to restock that committee. We will approve that Coordinator position. It should remain under City Council. Take the money for that position and allocate it at a later time. He is comfortable with the organizational structure that will be approved tonight. Supports the motion as presented.

Councilor Emerson commented that Mrs. Shifflett said we need to use all the resources of the City in downtown. The owners are tired of past treatment. Full resources are needed to clean up down there. This person needs to report to the City Manager. Events were successful last year, but did nothing for downtown. This is the right way to handle this for the short term.

Vice Mayor Pelham felt that Councilor Bailey has done a lot of research. The state is coming in November. Now we are planning.

Councilor Harris raised a Point of Order.

Vice Mayor Pelham mentioned the Organization Committee - it is a precedent that a City employee works for an Organization Committee directly. It would not be precedent setting for the coordinator to work for the Main Street organization. The City Manager specified that the Library Director is not a City director and does not work for the City. One of the objectives is to get the partnership incorporated and how to fund it. Since July, the Downtown Partnership has not been in a position to receive money. Yesterday, they filed to become incorporated. Once they are incorporated, then

Council could designate money to be sent to them. 1) Follow what was done in Hopewell 2007 and develop Hopewell 2008; 2) Do not hire a second person today.

Councilor Bailey clarified that it was not the ad hoc committee that presented the application to the state. In January they reached out for other members to become part of the Main Street organization. Each committee has at least four members. It was not the ad hoc committee by itself. The Main Street Organization Committee acts as the hiring panel and works with the Main Street Coordinator. The City Manager would be the principal governing the situation. But there would be input from the Main Street partnership. She asked for a ruling from the City Attorney - if decision was adopted by Council and it is reversed, that required a 2/3 majority vote to make it happen. He was unaware of any such requirement. Councilor Bailey asked for a Point of Order.

REPORTS OF CITY ATTORNEY

Mr. Wilmot reported that the Hopewell High School Girls Field Hockey Team was victorious over the Prince George High School Girls Field Hockey Team and he congratulated them.

REGULAR BUSINESS – APPOINTMENTS TO BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

Motion was made by Councilor Sealey, and seconded by Councilor Emerson, to resolve to:

- reappoint **Cheryl Collins**, Ward #1, **Architectural Review Board** for a term extending through **10/31/11**;
- reappoint **J. H. Clements** to the **Board of Building Code & Fire Prevention Code Appeals** for a term extending through **10/31/12**;
- recommend to the Circuit Court Judge the name of **Vanessa Justice** for appointment to the **Board of Zoning Appeals** for a term extending through **10/31/09**;
- appoint to the **Ad Hoc City Song Committee** for terms through **12/11/07: Mort Sisson, Ward #5**, 2808 Norfolk Street; **Judy Buchanan, Ward #3**, 518 Central Terrace; **Earline Allen, Ward #6**, 1818 Stewart Avenue; home - 458-5212; and **John Redling, Ward #1**, 615 Cedar Lane;
- reappoint **Phil Elliott** and **John Fountain** to the **CVWMA** for terms extending through **12/31/11**;
- appoint to the **Clean City Commission** **Donna K. Stewart** for a term extending through **10/31/11** and **Walter Stewart** for a term extending through **10/31/10**;
- reappoint **Tommy Wells** to the **Crater District Area Agency on Aging** for a term extending through **9/30/09**;
- appoint **John Weigel** to the **Disability Services Board** for a term extending through **12/31/10**;
- reappoint **Clinton Strong**, **Queen Harris**, and **Jack Gould** to the **HRHA** for terms extending through **10/31/11**;
- reappoint **Sandra Cornell**, **Kirby Bohannon**, and **Christopher Reber** to the **Industrial Development Authority** for terms extending through **10/31/11**;
- reappoint to the **Neighborhood Watch Advisory Council** **Nathan Adams, Ward #6**; **Sandra Cornell, Ward #1**; **Mary Hager, Ward #4**; and **Renate Harris, Ward #2**, for terms extending through **10/31/09**;
- reappoint **John Loshkreff** to the **Recreation Commission** for a term extending through **10/31/11**;
- reappoint **Wilma Crowder**, **Shirley I. Brannan**, and **Olivia Dragoo**, and appoint **Paul Karnes** to the **Senior Citizens Advisory Board** for terms extending through **10/31/09**;
- reappoint **Michael Natoli** to the **Social Services Advisory Board** for a term extending through **10/31/11**; and
- reappoint **Edward P. Henry, III** to the **Virginia's Gateway Region** for a term extending through **9/30/08**.

Upon the roll call, the vote resulted:

Mayor Taylor	-	yes
Vice Mayor Pelham	-	yes

October 23, 2007

Councilor Cuffey	-	yes
Councilor Bailey	-	yes
Councilor Harris	-	yes
Councilor Emerson	-	yes
Councilor Sealey	-	yes

REPORTS OF CITY COUNCIL COMMITTEES

Councilor Emerson reported on the Crater Planning Development Committee and BRAC. Many things are happening at Ft. Lee. He will leave the report at the City Clerk's Office for review.

REPORTS OF CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS

Councilor Bailey mentioned the Pumpkin Decorating at Heritage Gardens on Saturday, October 27, 2:30-5:00 PM. Call Brenda Harrup at 458-1892 for reservations; limited to 40 children (must be accompanied by a parent). She thanked the Downtown Partnership members for their work and their time. She also apologized on behalf of Council that they revoked a previous action.

Councilor Cuffey congratulated Ron Caricofe, School Board member, and the School Board for the dedication of the Board Room in honor of Mr. Caricofe. Councilor Cuffey also attended the Drug Court graduation with the Commonwealth's Attorney and Judge Campbell. He congratulated his soccer team. Finally, he wished everyone a Happy Halloween and a Happy Thanksgiving.

Councilor Sealey referred to Cobblestone and the Parkview Pointe proposal. It seems like it was tabled again. He would like to put it to rest. In another matter, the Americana Car Show is Saturday, October 27. Drive down between 8:00-10:00 AM. It will go on until 4:00 PM on East Broadway at the old supermarket parking lot. He attended the employee luncheon last week and the high point was hearing Tevya Griffin, City Planner, sing. She was outstanding! He echoed the comments about the dedication of the Ron Caricofe Board Room at the School Board Building. He also had the honor of going to Pittsburgh to introduce our City Manager as the new President of the ICMA (International City Manager's Association). He is held in high regard by people from all over the world.

Councilor Emerson also echoed the sentiments regarding Mr. Caricofe and Dr. Daley. He mentioned the recent Weston Manor BBQ and the Beacon Theatre Art Show. He recently attended the Virginia Municipal League Conference and found it to be very informative. He attended a Freedom of Information session and learned that Council members should respond only to one Council member at a time in an e-mail. To respond to all of them would constitute a Council meeting. In another matter, he expressed his appreciation of all the businesses downtown. There is a lot going to be done downtown.

Vice Mayor Pelham thanked the ladies from Highlights for their update on the business. She thanked the police for continuing to work with them. Last Saturday she attended a Teen Summit with 40 kids; it was a great success. She also attended the Chickahominy Tribe Event at the Moose Lodge on the same day. In addition, she attended the Mothers Against Violence Walk. The Teen Summit will be planned once a month. A Teen Center for 13-17 year-olds is desperately needed in the City. This coming weekend is the Virginia State University Homecoming. Also, on Saturday, October 27, there will be jazz performers at the Hopewell Gallery Art Works. Saturday, November 3, at Friendship Baptist Church there will be a get together for teens at noon. Officer Johnson will be there. The Community Gang wants to make prayer visible. Sunday, October 28, Minnie Harris, Cancer Prevention at Art Works Gallery at 4:00 PM. Flames of Glory Reunion on December 14; contact Josie Craighead at 458-2239. Vice Mayor Pelham voted against the Bluffs demolition. That decision was made that there was no planning for. She thanked Councilor Sealey for going to Pittsburgh in her place to introduce the City Manager at the ICMA Conference.

October 23, 2007

Mayor Taylor went to the VML Conference to make a presentation on Economic Development activity in Hopewell. He spoke at the event last Saturday that Ann Williams coordinated - Chickahominy Nation - Life As An Indian, held at the Moose Lodge. Four hundred people attended the event. The Chief commented about Hopewell having as much diversity as Philadelphia. Mayor Taylor invited everyone to attend the car show on East Broadway on Saturday the 27th. He congratulated Mr. Caricofe on the School Board Room being designated in his honor and the presentation of his portrait.

ADJOURN

At 11:05 PM, **motion** was made by Councilor Sealey, and seconded by Councilor Emerson, to adjourn the meeting. Upon the roll call, the vote resulted:

Mayor Taylor	-	yes
Vice Mayor Pelham	-	yes
Councilor Cuffey	-	yes
Councilor Bailey	-	yes
Councilor Harris	-	yes
Councilor Emerson	-	yes
Councilor Sealey	-	yes

Steven R. Taylor, Mayor

Ann M. Romano, City Clerk